

Document 456 of 576**ENVELOPE**

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ZNR UUUUU

HEADER

R 081734Z OCT 93
FM DIA WASHINGTON DC
INFO RUEAHQA/CSAF WASHINGTON DC
RUFGAID/USEUCOM AIDES VAIHINGEN GE
RHHMMCX/JICPAC HONOLULU HI
RUCIAEA/FASTC WRIGHT PATTERSON AFB OH//SCIR//
RUCMACC/CDRPSYOPGP FT BRAGG NC//AORC-POG-SB//
RUCBSAA/USCINCLANT NORFOLK VA//J2//
RUWSMXI/AMC INTEL CEN SCOTT AFB IL//IN//
RUCQVAB/USCINCSOC INTEL OPS CEN MACDILL AFB FL
RUEOFAA/COMJSOC FT BRAGG NC//J2//
RULKQAN/MARCORINTACT DET QUANTICO VA
RUSNNOA/USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE
RUEALGX/SAFE
R 081109Z OCT 93
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO RUEAHOF/CDRPERSCOM ALEX VA//TAPC-PEZ/DAPE-ZB-TFR-H//
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC//USDP:RSA/POW-MIA//
RUEKJCS/DIA WASHDC/[REDACTED]
RUEHKV/AMEMBASSY KIEV 1310 (b) (3)
RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 8425
INFO RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC//OJCS-PW/MIA/J5//
RUAGOTC/CINCUNC SEOUL
RUHQHQB/USCINCPAC HONOLULU HI//JOL//
RUHQHQE/CDR JTFFA HONOLULU HI
BT

CONTROLS

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 03 MOSCOW 031857

DEPT FOR EUR/ISCA AND EAP

E.O. 12356: N/A

/***** THIS IS A COMBINED MESSAGE *****/

BODY

TAGS: KPOW, MOPS, PREL, PHUM, RS
SUBJECT: POW/MIA: REINTERVIEW OF COLONEL
DERSKIY.

REF MOSCOW 30801

1. THIS MESSAGE INCLUDES AN ACTION REQUEST.
SEE PARAGRAPH 13.

2. SUMMARY. TASK FORCE RUSSIA TEAM MEMBERS
TRAVELLED TO UKRAINE, SEPTEMBER 22-24, 1993.
MEMBERS REINTERVIEWED COLONEL(RET) GREGORY
PAVLOVICH DERSKIY, WHO PROVIDED A
RECAPITULATION OF PREVIOUSLY PROVIDED DATA
AND SOME ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONCERNING
THE TRANSFER OF U.S. AVIATOR POWS FROM NORTH
KOREA. SELECTED DIRECT QUOTATIONS FROM THE
INTERVIEW ARE INTEGRATED INTO THIS REPORT. A
VIDEOTAPE OF THE FULL INTERVIEW HAS BEEN
FORWARDED TO THE JCSB. END SUMMARY.

BACKGROUND

3. TFR MEMBERS TABACH AND GROH TRAVELED TO
KIEV, UKRAINE, SEPTEMBER 22-24, 1993.
COLONEL DERSKIY WAS PREVIOUSLY INTERVIEWED BY
TFR ON SEPTEMBER 17, 1993 (REFTEL). DERSKIY
REITERATED MUCH OF THE INFORMATION FROM THE
INITIAL INTERVIEW ON THIS OCCASION.

4. COLONEL DERSKIY SERVED IN KOREA AS SOVIET
ADVISOR TO THE NORTH KOREAN FOURTH INFANTRY
DIVISION FROM MARCH 1950 TO JUNE 1951. "MY
BOSS WAS GENERAL-LIEUTENANT VASILEV. HE
HIMSELF WAS AN ARMOR OFFICER. BUT, IN FACT,
WHEN THE WAR BEGAN I REPORTED THE ENTIRE TIME
AND FILED ALL OF MY REPORTS WITH GENERAL-
COLONEL TARENTY FOMYCH SHYKOV; HE WAS AN
AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY. AS HE KNEW ME
WELL-WHEN I WAS ON VOLKOV'S FRONT HE WAS A
MEMBER OF THE FRONT MILITARY SOVIET. I WAS
THE COMMANDER OF A RIFLE BRIGADE THERE.
THAT'S HOW WE MET. HE TRUSTED ME WITH
EVERYTHING-HE DIDN'T TRUST ANYONE. HE
TRUSTED ME; HE WAS ABLE TELL ME EVERYTHING
THAT HE DIDN'T TELL OTHERS. HE WOULD LOOK AT
THE REPORTS THAT I GAVE TO HIM AND THEN HE
WOULD SAY SEND THE REPORTS TO MOSCOW-TO THE
GENERAL STAFF."

GENERAL DEAN

5. COLONEL DERSKIY REMEMBERS MEETING DEAN IN
JUNE 1950. HE TALKED TO DEAN IN SEOUL AND
THEN THE KOREANS TRANSFERRED DEAN TO PYONG

YANG. "SHTYKOV TOLD ME THAT HE DEAN RAD TO BE SENT TO THE SOVIET UNION, SO THAT NO ONE KNEW THAT HE WAS SENT." IN JULY 1950, DEAN WAS TRANSFERRED IN A SEPARATE TRAIN CAR UNDER GUARD. A COL NIKOLAEV WAS DETAILED TO ESCORT DEAN. "NIKOLAEV SAID THAT HE...UP TO THE BRIDGE, THERE WERE GENERALS AND VEHICLES...AND THEY TOOK HIM TO THE AIRFIELD-VERY CEREMONIOUSLY THEY TOOK HIM THERE-TO THE AIRFIELD." DERSKIY THINKS HE COULD RECOGNIZE DEAN IF SHOWN A PICTURE.

ANDREYKO

6. DERSKIY REMEMBERS ANDREYKO AS THE FIRST "POW" TO BE TRANSFERRED TO THE USSR FROM KOREA. HE WAS TAKEN PRISONER WHEN THE KOREANS TOOK SEOUL. DERSKIY BELIEVED THAT ANDREYKO WAS NOT JUST A (BRITISH?) INTELLIGENCE AGENT, BUT A "REZIDENT" (INTELLIGENCE OFFICER ASSIGNED UNDER THE COVER OF OTHER RESPONSIBILITIES). ANDREYKO WAS TRANSPORTED BY THE KOREANS TO THE BORDER, ALSO ESCORTED BY A COL NIKOLAEV. "THEN SHTYKOV CALLED ME AND SAID THAT HE ANDREYKO WOULD HAVE TO BE TRANSFERRED TO THE SOVIET UNION." DERSKIY SAID THE PLACE OF TRANSFER, FOR SUBSEQUENT TRANSPORTATION TO THE USSR, WAS "TU MAN CHAN" (POSSIBLE MUDAN'TSZYAN?), NEAR THE USSR CITY OF KHASAN. DERSKIY SAID

/***** BEGINNING OF SECTION 002 *****/
HE FOUND OUT ABOUT ANDREYKO'S DISPATCH TO MOSCOW THROUGH THE PRIMORSKIY KRAY GENERAL STAFF HEADQUARTERS IN USSURIYSK. A FRIEND OF DERSKIY'S NAMED PINKOVSKIY, WITH WHOM DERSKIY SERVED IN WWII, WAS THE CHIEF OF STAFF OF THE PRIMORSKIY KRAY HQ. ACCORDING TO DERSKIY, INFORMATION FLOWED THROUGH THE PRIMORSKIY KRAY HQ AND THEN ON TO MOSCOW. (TFR COMMENT: THE CHINESE TOWN OF MUDAN'TSZYAN, 44 30'N-129 30'E, IS APPROXIMATELY 250 KILOMETERS FROM KHASAN, RUSSIA, 42 30'N-131 00'E, BY AIR. A DIRECT TRANSFER FROM NORTH KOREA TO THE FORMER USSR IS POSSIBLE THROUGH THE AREA OF KHASAN. INITIAL TRANSFER THROUGH MUDAN'TSZYAN WOULD MEAN SENDING POWS TO CHINA. BOTH ROUTES ARE CONSISTENT WITH AN INITIAL PRIMARY DESTINATION IN THE USSR AT USSURIYSK, WHICH DERSKIY SAYS WAS THE PRIMORSKIY KRAY HEADQUARTERS. SEE ALSO PARAGRAPH 7. END COMMENT.)

TRANSFER OF US POWS

7. DERSKIY SAID IT WAS NOT SHTYKOV WHO GAVE THE ORDER TO CAPTURE AND TRANSPORT AMERICAN FLIERS. IT WAS A DIRECTIVE FROM THE GENERAL STAFF TO TRANSPORT AMERICAN FLIERS TO CHINA AND THEN ON TO THE USSR. "IN MY OPINION THERE WAS ONE ORDER; NOT WITH EACH FLIER SEPARATELY. IT WAS NOT AN ORDER, BUT ONE SINGLE DIRECTIVE ON HOW TO DEAL WITH DOWNED PILOTS." "I THINK THAT THE ORDER CAME FROM MOSCOW AND THEN SHTYKOV GAVE THE ORDER THAT ALL FLIERS WERE TO BE SENT THERE CHINA. FLIERS WERE NOT HELD IN CAMPS IN KOREA."

8. DERSKIY SAID THAT "ALL FLIERS WERE SENT TO CHINA" AS KRANOVSKIY, WHO COMMANDED ALL AVIATION ASSETS, WAS LOCATED THERE (NFI). DERSKIY SAID THAT SOVIET PILOTS AND DESIGN ENGINEERS CAME TO KOREA TO ESCORT THE AMERICAN FLIERS. THESE ENGINEERS WERE INTERESTED IN BOTH THE AIRCRAFT AND THEIR PILOTS. DERSKIY SAID THAT ALL PILOTS WERE SENT TO CHINA BY VEHICLE; PILOTS WERE NOT KEPT IN CAMPS IN KOREA.

9. IN DERSKIY'S OPINION, ALL FLIERS SHOT DOWN BY SOVIET ASSETS BECAME SOVIET PRISONERS. DERSKIY ESTIMATED THAT, IN ALL, INCLUDING FLYING FORTRESS CREWS, MORE THAN ONE HUNDRED FLIERS WERE TRANSFERRED TO CHINA. DERSKIY PERSONALLY RECALLS "ABOUT THIRTY" FIGHTER PILOTS TO HAVE BEEN TRANSFERRED. HE DOES NOT KNOW IF ANY OF THE TRANSFERRED FLIERS BYPASSED CHINA AND WERE SENT DIRECTLY TO RUSSIA. DERSKIY SAID THE HE DID NOT PERSONALLY WRITE INTELLIGENCE REPORTS ON THE FLIERS, AS HIS AREA OF INTEREST WAS GROUND FORCES. HE RECALLED THAT THE NAVAL ATTACHE WAS NAMED KABANADZE; HE COULD NOT RECALL THE NAME OF THE AIR ATTACHE. WITH THE EXCEPTION OF GENERAL DEAN, DERSKIY DOES NOT RECALL ANY OTHER GROUND FORCES PERSONNEL BEING TRANSFERRED OUT OF KOREA.

10. THE SPECIFIC PILOT WITH WHOM DERSKIY TALKED "CRASH LANDED IN A RICE FIELD ON THE ROAD BETWEEN SINGISYU AND PYONG YANG. WE FOLLOWED IT, YOU KNOW, AS HE WAS FLYING, HE GLIDED AND GLIDED AND CRASHED IN A RICE FIELD. WE IMMEDIATELY RUSHED THERE. THAT WAS IN JULY OR THE BEGINNING OF SEPTEMBER." DER8KIY SAID THE PILOT WAS ABOUT 5'7" TALL, 24-25 YEARS OLD, LIGHT COMPLEXION, SLIGHT OF BUILD WITH BROWN HAIR. "HIS LEGS WERE INJURED; I DON'T KNOW IF THEY WERE BROKEN. IT WAS DIFFICULT FOR HIM TO STAND; HE COULDN'T GET UP FROM HIS SEAT." DERSKIY DOES NOT REMEMBER THE PILOT'S RANK. SOON AFTER

THE CRASH, DESIGN ENGINEERS (KONSTRUKTORA) ARRIVED AND REMOVED THE AIRCRAFT BY VEHICLE. DERSKIY IS FAIRLY CERTAIN THE AIRCRAFT WAS AN

/***** BEGINNING OF SECTION 003 *****/
F-84, BUT ADMITTED THAT TO HIM THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE F-84 AND THE F-86 WERE SLIGHT. DERSKIY SAID THE PILOT WAS SENT TO MUKDEN IN CHINA AND THEN ON TO THE USSR. THE ORDER FOR THIS TRANSFER WAS GIVEN BY GENERAL-LIEUTENANT VASILEV. DERSKIY HAD HEARD THAT THE PILOT AGREED TO SKETCH SPECIFICATIONS AND INFORMATION ABOUT HIS AIRCRAFT FOR HIS CAPTORS. DERSKIY THINKS HE COULD, IF SHOWN PHOTOGRAPHS, RECOGNIZE THE PILOT.

11. WITH REGARD TO THE DOCUMENT HE PROVIDED TFR ON SEPTEMBER 17, DERSKIY SAID HE CANNOT BE CERTAIN THAT THE KIA NUMBERS ARE CORRECT, BUT IS CERTAIN THAT THE POW NUMBERS ARE ACCURATE. HE SAID THAT SPECIAL ATTENTION WAS PAID TO THE ACCURACY OF POW NUMBERS.

12. DERSKIY RECALLED THE FOLLOWING PERSONALITIES FROM THE KOREAN WAR ERA:
PAVLOVSKI - CHIEF OF THE OPERATIONS SECTION OF THE SOVIET ARMY. (ADVISOR TO CHINA)
MAKHSIMOV - CHIEF OF THE GENERAL HEADQUARTERS. (ADVISOR TO CHINA)
KUZNETSOV - CHIEF OF THE MVD IN NORTH KOREA. (ASSOCIATED WITH TRANSFER OF ANDREYKO)
PLOTNIKOV S.A. - ADVISOR TO THE CHIEF OF THE GENERAL STAFF.
RAZUVAEV - REPLACED SHTYKOV.
KOZLOV - SOVIET ADVISOR TO CHIEF OF POLITICAL DIRECTORATE.
NIKOLAEV - SOVIET COLONEL WHO ESCORTED DEAN AND ANDREYKO.
KRASOVSKIY . COMMANDER OF ALL SOVIET AIR ASSETS IN CHINA.
PINKOVSKIY - CHIEF OF STAFF, PRIMORSKIY KRAY HQ.
KABANADZE - SOVIET NAVAL ATTACHE IN KOREA
GENERAL-LIEUTENANT VASILEV - GAVE AN ORDER TO TRANSFER A PILOT (NFI) THROUGH CHINA TO THE USSR.

13. TFR COMMENT: A VIDEO COPY OF THE FULL INTERVIEW WAS HANDCARRIED TO THE U.S. BY CONNELL ON OCTOBER 5. TEAM IS PREPARED TO ACCOMPLISH A PHOTO LAY-DOWN WITH DERSKIY; CURRENT MUG BOOK, HOWEVER, DOES NOT INCLUDE SUFFICIENT COVERAGE OF 1950/51 AVIATORS MISSING FROM KOREA. REQUEST JCSB PREPARE ADDITIONAL 3X5 (APPROXIMATE) PHOTOS, BASED ON AFM 200-25 "MISSING IN ACTION KOREA."

CONTROL PHOTOGRAPHS, IF DESIRED, SHOULD INCLUDE PICTURE OF REPATRIATED OR KNOWN DECEASED POWS WHO WERE F-84 OR F-86 PILOTS. NOTE THAT DERSKIY'S ACQUAINTANCE WITH THE FLIER IS CONTEMPORARY WITH THE SHOOTDOWN DATE, THEREFORE AGED OR ALTERED PHOTOS ARE NOT APPROPRIATE FOR THIS EFFORT. TFR WILL TRY TO CONFIRM IDENTITIES AND DUTY ASSIGNMENTS OF PERSONALITIES IN PARAGRAPH TWELVE, AND ATTEMPT TO CONTACT ANY WHO ARE LIVING AND CAN BE LOCATED. AT THE TIME OF THIS MESSAGE, RUSSIAN SIDE HAS NOT/NOT BEEN APPRAISED OF THE CONTENT OF THE DERSKIY INTERVIEWS. END COMMENT.

14. TASK FORCE RUSSIA SENDS. COLLINS

ADMIN

BT

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